

May 5, 2003

Montana Medicaid Notice

School Based Providers

CSCT Program Reinstated

The Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) recently partnered with the Office of Public Instruction to reinstate Comprehensive School and Community Treatment (CSCT) program through a Medicaid refinancing effort. DPHHS eliminated CSCT mental health services last summer due to lack of available state general fund. With the elimination of CSCT services, school-based programs closed, limiting mental health access in many Montana communities to student's in need of CSCT services.

CSCT services include intensive individual, family, and group counseling, social skills training, behavior intervention plans and school, family, and community support. Each child receiving CSCT has a team of two individuals (licensed mental health therapist and behavioral consultant) dedicated to no more than twelve children and their families. All students receiving CSCT services must meet DPHHS' mental health eligibility requirements. Sliding fee scales and scholarships will be offered to families not meeting financial criteria. Please check with your local licensed mental health center for specific eligibility criteria.

For dates of service beginning January 1, 2003, CSCT services are eligible to be billed by schools that have contracted with licensed mental health centers to provide CSCT services. Once the contractual agreement between the school and mental health center is in place, schools may bill in increments of 15 minutes for direct, face to face service time provided to clients by therapists and behavioral health specialists, up to 80 units per 30 day period. Schools are required to ensure that adequate documentation to support the CSCT billing exists. The procedure code for billing CSCT services is H0036.

Only licensed mental health centers can provide CSCT services and schools are required to contract with these centers for CSCT services. However, schools must assume the Medicaid billing functions for CSCT services and reimburse CSCT providers from recovered Medicaid federal funds or other available funds. Co-ops may also bill for CSCT services under their single provider number for their member schools. In addition, unless the CSCT services are specified in the student's IEP, schools and co-ops must agree to bill parents or private insurance companies for non-Medicaid eligible children that receive CSCT services according to the licensed mental health sliding fee schedule. If a school does not currently bill for Medicaid health related services provided in schools, the school is required to enroll as a Medicaid provider. To enroll as a Medicaid provider, the school should contact the ACS Provider Enrollment at (406) 442-1837.

Reimbursement will only be for the federal share of the allowable billed amount.

CSCT will no longer be supported by state general funds. Rather, DPHHS will use a “local certification of match” process to draw down federal funds for CSCT services. The local certification of match process utilizes school contributions to the CSCT programs such as materials, supplies, office space, computers and support staff to meet the federal Medicaid matching requirement. Schools are required to certify they have provided sufficient non-federal costs in support of the CSCT program to meet the matching requirements for draw down of federal Medicaid funds on an annual basis to DPHHS. Schools may do this by sending a letter annually to DPHHS indicating costs related to the CSCT services as well as documenting that CSCT services have been billed to non-Medicaid clients. The current matching rate for the State of Montana is 72.93 percent. As such, for every unit of CSCT service billed, the school will need to have expended 27.07 percent in local and state funds to support the billing of CSCT services.

Contact Information

For more information, access the Provider Information website:

<http://www.mtmedicaid.org>

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations:

Provider Relations in Helena and out-of-state: (406) 442-1837

In-state toll-free: 1-800-624-3958